

Serial No.: 10/758,968

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action on the merits.

The title is amended to more accurately describe the subject matter that is claimed in the application.

Claims 1-52 are pending herein. In accordance with the provisions 35 U.S.C. §135(b)(1), claims 28 to 52, corresponding to claims 1-25 of U.S. Patent No. 6,712,084 B2 to Sajii et al., are being presented prior to one year from the date on which U.S. Patent No. 6,712,084 B2 was granted (March 30,2004).

Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (703) 433-0510 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

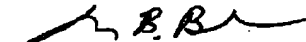
The Office is authorized to charge any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment to Deposit Account Number 50-1047.

Please continue to send all correspondence to:

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Respectfully submitted,



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Certificate of Facsimile Transmission

I hereby certify that this document and any document referenced herein is being sent to the United States Patent and Trademark office via Facsimile to: 703-872-9306 on

March 23, 2005.

David B. Bonham

(Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)



(Signature)